

CLAIMS

1. Method for enabling access to a WLAN communication system (100) comprising:
receiving a WLAN access request from a WLAN communication device (150);
setting up a charging call via a second communication system in response to the WLAN access request using second communication system subscription information associated with the WLAN communication device (150);
enabling access to the WLAN communication system (100) in response to the setting up of the charging call.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the step of setting up a charging call comprises the step of forwarding authentication request information received from the second communication system to the WLAN communication device and the step of forwarding authentication response information received from the WLAN communication device to the second communication system.
3. The method as claimed in any preceding claim, also comprising the step of selecting the destination of the charging call depending on the requested service to be accessed.
4. The method as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising the step of selecting the duration of the charging call depending on the requested service to be accessed.
5. The method as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the charging call is a premium rate call.

6. The method as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising the step of determining the duration of the charging call and the step of discontinuing the charging call when the predetermined duration has expired.
7. The method as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising the step of determining the duration of the permitted WLAN access, and the step of discontinuing access once the allowed duration has expired.
8. The method as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising the step of determining magnitude of permitted data transfer during WLAN access and the step of discontinuing access once permitted data transfer has occurred.
9. The method as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising the step of initiating a new charging call in respect of additional access in response to a request for additional access received from the WLAN device.
10. Apparatus for enabling access to a WLAN communication system (100) comprising:
 - means for receiving a WLAN access request from a WLAN communication device (150);
 - means for setting up a charging call via a second communication system in response to the WLAN access request using second communication system subscription information associated with the WLAN communication device (150);
 - means for enabling access to the WLAN communication system (100) in response to the setting up of the charging call.
11. Method of accessing a WLAN in a wireless communication device (150) comprising the steps of
 - transmitting a WLAN access request

receiving a subscription information authentication request relating to
subscriber information for a second communication system
providing subscription authentication information, to enable a charging call
for the WLAN access to be set up in the second communication system
using the subscription authentication information;
receiving WLAN access in response to the setting up of the charging call.